

## WSDOT I-5 Seattle to Shoreline Construction

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### We want to hear from you about the viaduct

The [Alaskan Way Viaduct and Seawall Replacement Team](#) is hosting public meetings to discuss the replacement of more than 40 percent of the viaduct. Come tell us how the section between South Holgate and South King streets should be replaced. WSDOT and the Federal Highway Administration [want to hear from you](#) about what should be considered in the environmental assessment.

Mark your calendars and join us:

- 5 to 8 p.m., Sept. 24 at the Starbucks Support Center, 2401 Utah Avenue South, third floor
- 5 to 8 p.m., Sept. 26 at Madison Middle School, 3429 45<sup>th</sup> Avenue SW, in the cafeteria

### New pavement different than drivers expected on I-5 in Seattle

You may have noticed that the old expansion joint bumps on northbound I-5 south of downtown Seattle are gone, but that the new pavement seems rough. The new pavement is intentionally grooved to help improve traction and safety, particularly in wet weather. It's called polyester concrete and although the material has been around since the early 1980s it's only now becoming more common in Washington state. [Read more about why we chose it for this project.](#)

### Guarding against graffiti – New Mercer sign is covered

For months, the Mercer exit sign above northbound I-5 had been sprayed with paint and covered in stickers. The maintenance crew had a new sign ready to go at their shop, but they were waiting to put it up because they knew they would have to shut down the entire freeway to hang it, and it would still be vulnerable to repeat taggers. The crew saw their chance during the big I-5 construction project and [replaced the sign](#) during those closures. They also came up with a creative way to block future taggers by installing sheet metal around the sign. Find out more about our [graffiti clean up efforts](#).

### Back to school: Please drive safely

Now that school is back in session, you'll be seeing a lot of children and teenagers on the roads in the mornings and afternoons – walking, riding bikes, in school buses or driving. Please be alert, use extra caution and obey the reduced speed limits while driving near schools.

If you exceed the speed limit, you could be fined up to \$784, and this fine may not be waived, reduced or suspended. The [Washington Traffic Safety Commission](#) reports that a child has a 90 percent chance of death if struck by a car traveling 25 to 30 miles per hour. They have an 80 to 90 percent rate of survival if struck by a car traveling 20 mph.

Also, be sure to exercise patience when school buses stop to load and unload passengers. If you travel the same route as school buses, you may want to leave yourself some extra time to allow for delays.

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